

Message Text

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41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /052 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6761

INFO SECDEF WASH DC IMMEDIATE

PANCANAL IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 1168

FOR NADEAU FROM BELL AND DOLVIN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT:US-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: ACTIVITIES REPORT

I.

THIS MESSAGE NUMBER TWO FOR THE DEPARTMENT APPLICABLE TO THE
FEBRUARY 1976 NEGOTIATING ROUND IN PANAMA SENT FROM CONTADORA
ISLAND AT 10:00 A.M. ON FEBRUARY 16.

II.

A. YOUR MESSAGES HAVE BEEN TIMELY AND INFORMATIVE. PLEASE
CONTINUE WITHOUT CHANGE.

B. NEGOTIATING SCHEDULE -- WE WILL NOT BE TRAVELING TO WASHINGTON
FEBRUARY 17. HAVE NO DEFINITE RETURN SCHEDULE AS YET BUT WILL
KEEP YOU INFORMED.

C. NEGOTIATING PROGRESS -- THIS ROUND HAS BEEN PROCEEDING
"SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY." WE ARE FORWARDING TO CARACAS AND
SECSTATE PRIOR TO NOON, FEBRUARY 17, A BRIEF STATUS REPORT
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FOR THE SECRETARY'S PERSONAL ATTENTION AS HE BEGINS HIS TRIP.

D. MRS. SULLIVAN'S LETTER -- PLEASE HANDCARRY ON FEBRUARY 17
RESPONSE FROM AMBASSADOR BUNKER TO MRS. SULLIVAN'S LETTER ON
CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE

CONTADORA ISLAND, PANAMA, FEBRUARY 16, 1976

DEAR MADAM CHAIRMAN:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF JANUARY 30.

MINISTER BELL AND I SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH YOU
AND THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE PANAMA CANAL IN ORDER TO REVIEW
RECENT EVENTS ON THE ISTHMUS AS THEY MAY RELATE TO THE
CANAL, THE CANAL ZONE, AND THE TREATY NEGOTIATIONS.

AS FAR AS I CAN JUDGE AT THIS MOMENT, WE SHOULD BE ABLE
TO APPEAR AT THE END OF FEBRUARY OR DURING THE FIRST DAYS OF
MARCH. WE WOULD, IN ANY EVENT, LIKE TO HAVE ONE WEEK IN
WASHINGTON FOLLOWING OUR RETURN AND PRIOR TO OUR APPEARANCE.

WITH WARM REGARDS.

SINCERELY,

ELLSWORTH BUNKER END QUOTE.

E. TRANSCRIPT OF AMBASSADOR BUNKER'S SEPTEMBER 1975 MEETING
WITH CANAL ZONE EMPLOYEES -- TEXT OF TRANSCRIPT BEING
FORWARDED BY EMBASSY TO PANAMA CANAL COMPANY ON FEBRUARY 17,
AND TO MR. J.R. WILLIAMS OF PANAMA CANAL PILOTS' ASSOCIATION,
WHO INITIALLY REQUESTED IT. COPY OF CLEAN TEXT WILL BE POUCHED
TO ARA/PAN-WYROUGH.

F. NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION BRIEFING -- AMBASSADOR
BUNKER HAS AGREED TO MEET WITH GROUP ON MARCH 18, SCHEDULE
PERMITTING. DRAFT REMARKS WILL BE REQUIRED.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, CANALS, NEGOTIATIONS, PROGRESS REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: blochd0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PANAMA01168
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760058-0442
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760245/aaaabnpv.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUL 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <28 OCT 2004 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: S-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: ACTIVITIES REPORT I.
TAGS: PFOR, PN, US, PQ
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006